and Leprosy Elimination Campaigns (LECs) for difficult/inaccessible/ under served rural and urban areas respectively.

(v) Intensified public awareness campaigns.

(vi) Training of health staff in disability prevention and care.

(vii) Training of General Health Care Staff in leprosy.

(c) Yes, Sir. Rs.74.61 lakhs which includes cost of drugs supplied have been allotted to the State of Kerala during 2001-02.

(d) and (e) Integration of leprosy services with General Health Care Services in Kerala, has not yet started. However, the process for such integration has already started. After integration, the leprosy staff will be involved in all the health care activities/services being imparted by general health care services including in the National Health Programme.

Aids awareness in Eastern States

2960. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Eastern States still low on AIDS awareness: report", which appeared in the Indian Express, dated the 16th January, 2002;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Various programmes are in operation to increase the level of awareness about HIV/AIDS among the people. These include-

Family Health Awareness Campaigns in rural & urban slum areas.

Mass Media campaigns through radio, television and print media.

Targetted interventions programmes for high risk groups.